

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A modular universal adapter telemedicine system comprising
~~at least one~~ a plurality of function modules ~~module~~ for at least one item selected from the group consisting of diagnostic testing, communication and identification, wherein each function module is a fully functional individual device capable of being independently operated via control elements being disposed on the surface of the function module;
a process module for providing ~~at least one item selected from the group consisting of~~ data output, data processing and data transmission collected by the function modules ; and
a at least one universal adapter to connect the function modules to the process module via wire bound or wireless,
the at least one universal adapter is capable of being connected to the function modules wire bound or wireless, wherein uniform connections are provided at the function modules and the universal adapter for the wire bound connection, and
the at least one universal adapter is capable of operating a function module connected thereto via control elements being disposed on a surface of the universal adapter, wherein a basic control mode is provided allowing to record and transmit data and to inquire about the status of the function module.
2. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the data collected during use of the function modules ~~is~~ are at least one item selected from the group consisting of measurable medical parameters, identification features, audiovisual data and geographic position data.
3. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ the at least one function module can be easily operated in the same manner using the universal adapter comprises a two-knob controller for controlling the function modules in a basic control mode by means of a two-knob controller.

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4. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one function module comprises at least one diagnostic function module for the purposes of medical diagnostic testing.
5. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 4, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the diagnostic function module is at least one of an electrocardiograph, a pulsoximeter, a spirometer, a blood pressure measurement device, a thermometer, a cardiocograph, a heart beat monitor or other event recorder, or a blood sugar measuring device.
6. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein one of the plurality of the at least one function modules includes at least one identification module to record an identification features of a patient.
7. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the identification module involves at least one function selected from the group consisting of recording biometric data of the patient and reading identification cards.
8. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein one of the plurality of at least one function modules includes at least one communication module for audiovisual communication.
9. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one communication module involves functions to record speech, pictures and video data and to transmit the data in real time.
10. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one function modules includes a locating module to locate the geographic position of the telemedicine system.

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11. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 10, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the locating module is a GPS module to determine and to transmit geographic position data.
12. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 11, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the GPS module is integrated into the universal adapter.
13. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the process module includes means to process, output and transmit data to a remote physician's receiving center.
14. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein ~~the~~ at least one of the function ~~module~~ modules ~~[[,]]~~ and the universal adapter have their own internal battery.
15. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one of the function ~~module~~ modules and the universal adapter have a universal I/O connection through which at least one of the data transmission between the modules and charging of the function module's' battery takes place.
16. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the universal adapter includes a wireless interface, through which the data can be exchanged with at least one of the process modules and the at least one function modules equipped with wireless interfaces, wherein the data transmission to the process module ~~can just as easily be~~ is accomplished using a hard-wired I/O connection.
17. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the universal adapter includes a function to automatically register connected function modules.

18. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at ~~least one~~ function modules ~~[[,]]~~ and the universal adapter have a central processor and non-mechanical memory to store data ~~at least temporarily or long term.~~

19. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at ~~least one~~ function modules ~~has~~ have two ~~its own~~ control elements and at least one item selected from the group consisting of an acoustic-/visual signal elements, a function display and a display on the module.

20. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the universal adapter has four control elements and at least one item selected from the group consisting of an acoustic-/visual signal elements, a function display and/or a display on the module.

21. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one function module ~~[can be easily operated]~~ are operable through two of the four control elements located on the universal adapter concerning basic functions of data recording, data transmission or status inquiries.

22. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 20, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the at least one function module, and the universal adapter can be expanded in operation and configuration through the four control elements located on the universal adapter.

23. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the universal adapter and the at least one function modules can be operated in different user modes.

24. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 23, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein different user modes are available to at least one of the patient, the physician, multiple patients and remote access by the physician's receiving center.

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25. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 23, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the process module includes a function to change the user mode of the universal adapter.

26. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ~~at least one~~ function modules~~[[,]]~~ ~~can be used~~ are useable ~~{a}~~ either ~~using~~ with the universal adapter and a process module to transmit data directly or ~~{b}~~ separately without the universal adapter.

27. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the ability is available to perform wireless communication between the universal adapters of multiple modular universal adapter telemedicine systems, and to use a process module in common through a wireless or hard-wired transmission path to said process module.

28. (Currently amended) A The modular universal adapter telemedicine system according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein diagnostic and therapeutic plan monitoring and medical monitoring software is integrated into the universal adapter.

14. (Canceled)